YOUNG PEOPLE’S CONCERT

Fantasy and Imagination

Saturday, January 20, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
16,988th Concert

Jerry Hou, Conductor
Justin Jay Hines, Host
Doug Fitch, Director / Designer
Materials for the Arts, Creative Partner
   (New York Philharmonic debut)

This program will last approximately one hour. There will be no intermission. It is preceded by YPC Overtures, beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the Leon and Norma Hess Grand Promenade and Hearst Tier 1, and in the Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio.

Lead support for Young People’s Concerts is provided by Evalyn E. and Stephen E. Milman.

Major support for Young People’s Concerts is provided by the Tiger Baron Foundation.

Major support for the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program is provided by Susan and Elihu Rose.
Jerry Hou, Conductor  
Justin Jay Hines, Host  
Doug Fitch, Director / Designer  
Materials for the Arts, Creative Partner (New York Philharmonic debut)

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**MUSORGSKY**  
(1839–81)  
orch. RAVEL  
(1875–1937)  

Selections from *Pictures at an Exhibition* (1874; arr. 1922)  
- Promenade  
- Gnomus (Gnome)  
- Promenade  
- Il Vecchio Castello (The Old Castle)  
- Promenade  
- Tuileries  
- Bydlo (Polish Ox-Cart)

**New York Philharmonic VERY YOUNG COMPOSERS**  

New Works (2023; World Premieres)  

- Tristan HU  
  (b. 2006)  
  *Odyssey*  

- Ijeoma Ah-Byn KENÉ  
  (b. 2014)  
  *The Story of Smoke and Fire*
Selections from *Pictures at an Exhibition*
Promenade
Ballet des poussins dans leurs coques (Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks)
Limoges: Le Marché (The Marketplace at Limoges)
Catacombae: Sepulcrum Romanum (Catacombs: Roman Burial Place)
Con mortuis in lingua mortua (With the Dead in a Dead Language)
La Cabane sur des pattes de poules (Baba-Yaga) (The Hut on Chicken Feet: Baba-Yaga)
La Grande porte de Kiev (The Great Gate of Kiev)

THIS CONCERT WILL BE PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION.

Support for Young People’s Concerts is provided by the *The Brodsky Family Foundation*.
Additional funding for the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program is provided by *Muna and Basem Hishmeh* and *Billy Rose Foundation*.
Guest artist appearances are made possible through the *Hedwig van Ameringen Guest Artists Endowment Fund*.

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PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.
PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RECORDING ARE PERMITTED ONLY DURING APPLAUSE.
Today we continue our celebration of 100 years of New York Philharmonic Young People’s Concerts (YPCs). This season’s programming honors the aspirations for the series since the very beginning: to center the performance on children, whose individuality, creativity, bravery, and expression have allowed our YPCs to thrive for generations. Inviting young people — our future musicians, audiences, and citizens — into the New York Philharmonic family inspires us and helps us reflect on our relevance and purpose.

The way we’ve presented YPCs has evolved over the century, but our core values remain constant. Conductor and YPC founder Ernest Schelling wrote:

*Making music fun for children* is the motive that dominates these concerts. The method of concert-giving is formulated on the premise that young people must be wholeheartedly interested and must, in a great sense, be participants. The restless nature of young people is taken into consideration at all times, and variety is one of the first requisites.

Today you’ll hear Musorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*, which he composed as a response to an exhibition of art by Victor Hartmann, his dear friend who had recently passed. It opens and closes a concert celebrating how a work of art can spark the imagination of another creator. The works by NY Phil Very Young Composers were inspired by visual art created by peers and friends in the program in response to the idea of exploring an exhibition. Nurturing fantasy and imagination can inspire self-reflection and collaboration. We hope these pieces and the sounds of the orchestra invite you to find your own meanings — and fun — in music.

We are thrilled you have chosen to be part of the tradition of Young People’s Concerts at the New York Philharmonic!
Tristan Hu writes music that reflects emotions, places, and events that he has experienced. He is a senior at the Special Music School High School of New York City. His works have been performed by ensembles including the New York Philharmonic, VOCES8, and the Parhelion Trio. He received a Silver Award for the Teens group and a Bronze Award for the Junior group for Sinovision American Youth Talent and Art Contests for Piano, and won Most Romantic Piece in The Piano School of New York City’s First Annual Youth Competition in 2017. His original compositions Armageddon and The Flying Piranha were performed by the New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Center and the St. George Theatre in Staten Island in 2019.

About Odyssey Tristan writes:

*Odyssey* is a piece inspired by VYC student Sophia Hyowon Kang’s drawing of a landscape. The piece portrays a growing sense of expansiveness, as if witnessing new and unknown places. It also represents change and growth as the piece leaves and returns to its theme.
The Story of Smoke and Fire

Ijeoma Ah-Byn Kené (b. 2014)

Ijeoma Ah-Byn Kené is a fourth grader at the PS II Purvis J. Behan Elementary School in Brooklyn. Ijeoma is an avid gymnast, scholar, and Earth and animal lover who is also a deep thinker, a thoughtful friend, and a blossoming composer discovering the powers of music. Ijeoma feels very blessed to have her name, which guides her with purpose and meaning: Ijeoma (from the Igbo language of Nigeria) means to learn about the beautiful journeys of her ancestors (who are from Grenada, Korea, and Nigeria). Ah-Byn (Korean) means to be good and beautiful on the inside and outside.

About The Story of Smoke and Fire Ijeoma writes:

In this work inspired by an illustration by VYC students Vivian and Odette Iannetta, Smoke and Fire discover that their ancestors were enemies. They choose not to walk away and keep talking and connecting. They conclude that they can forge a new pathway of understanding and create a new future.

Musorgsky’s Pictures at an Exhibition (arr. Ravel) is presented under license from Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., copyright owners.
New York Philharmonic

2023–2024 SEASON
JAAP van ZWEDEN, Music Director
Leonard Bernstein, Laureate Conductor, 1943–1990
Kurt Masur, Music Director Emeritus, 1991–2015

VIOLINS
Frank Huang
Concertmaster
The Charles E. Culpeper Chair

Sheryl Staples
Principal Associate Concertmaster
The Elizabeth G. Beinecke Chair

Michelle Kim
Assistant Concertmaster
The William Petschek Family Chair

Quan Ge
Hae-Young Ham
The Mr. and Mrs. Timothy M. George Chair

Lisa GiHae Kim
Kuan Cheng Lu
Kerry McDermott
Su Hyun Park
Anna Rabinova
Fiona Simon
The Shirley BacoT Shamel Chair

Sharon Yamada
Elizabeth Zeltser*
The William and Elfriede Ulrich Chair

Yulia Ziskel
The Friends and Patrons Chair

Qianqian Li
Principal

Lisa Eunsoo Kim*
In Memory of Laura Mitchell

Soo hyun Kwon
The Joan and Joel I. Picket Chair

Duoming Ba

Hannah Choi

The Sue and Eugene Mercy, Jr. Chair

I-Jung Huang
Dasol Jeong
Alina Kobialka
Hyunju Lee
Kyung Ji Min
Marié Schwalbach
Na Sun
The Gary W. Parr Chair

Audrey Wright
Jin Suk Yu
Andi Zhang

CELOS
Carter Brey
Principal
The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Chair

Matthew Christakos*
The Paul and Diane Guenther Chair

Patrick Lee

Elizabeth Dyson
The Mr. and Mrs. James E. Buckman Chair

Alexei Yupanqui
Gonzales

Maria Kitsopoulos
The Secular Society Chair

Sumire Kudo
Qiang Tu
Nathan Vickery
Ru-Pei Yeh

The Credit Suisse Chair

in honor of Paul Calello

BASSES
Timothy Cobb
Principal

Max Zeugner*
The Herbert M. Citrin Chair

Blake Hinson**

Satoshi Okamoto

Randall Butler
The Ludmila S. and Carl B. Hess Chair

David J. Grossman+

Isaac Trapkus
Rion Wentworth

FLUTES
Robert Langevin
Principal
The Lila Acheson Wallace Chair

Alison Fiest*r
Yoobin Son
Mindy Kaufman
The Edward and Priscilla Pitcher Chair

PICCOLO
Mindy Kaufman

OBOES
Liang Wang
Principal
The Alice Tully Chair
Sherry Sylar*
Robert Betti
The Elizabeth and Frank Newman Chair
Ryan Roberts

ENGLISH HORN
Ryan Roberts

CLARINETS
Anthony McGill
Principal
The Edna and W. Van Alan Clark Chair

Benjamin Adler*
Pascual Martinez
Fortezza
The Honey M. Kurtz Family Chair
Barret Ham

E-FLAT CLARINET
Benjamin Adler

The Digital Organ is made possible by Ronnie P. Ackman and Lawrence D. Ackman.
Steinway is the Official Piano of the New York Philharmonic and David Geffen Hall.
BASS CLARINET
Barret Ham

BASSOONS
Judith LeClair
Principal
The Pels Family Chair
Julian Gonzalez*

Roger Nye
The Rosalind Miranda Chair
in memory of Shirley and Bill Cohen

CONTRABASSOON

HORNs
Nikolette LaBonte++
Guest Principal
Richard Deane*
R. Allen Spanjer
The Rosalind Miranda Chair

Leelanee Sterrett
Tanner West
The Ruth F. and Alan J. Broder Chair

TRUMPETS
Christopher Martin
Principal
The Paula Levin Chair
Matthew Muckey*
Ethan Bensdorf
Thomas Smith

TROMBONES
Joseph Alessi
Principal
The Gurnee F. and Marjorie L. Hart Chair
Colin Williams*
David Finlayson
The Donna and Benjamin M. Rosen Chair

BASS TROMBONE
George Curran
The Daria L. and William C. Foster Chair

TUBA
Alan Baer
Principal

TIMPANI
Markus Rhoten
Principal
The Carlos Moseley Chair
Kyle Zerna**

PERCUSSION
Christopher S. Lamb
Principal
The Constance R. Hoguet Friends of the Philharmonic Chair
Daniel Druckman*
The Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. Ulrich Chair
Kyle Zerna

HARP
Nancy Allen
Principal

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In Memory of Paul Jacobs

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Paolo Bordignon

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Eric Huebner
The Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Piano Chair

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STAGE REPRESENTATIVE
Joseph Faretta

AUDIO DIRECTOR
Lawrence Rock

* Associate Principal
** Assistant Principal
*** Acting Associate Principal
+ On Leave
++ Replacement / Extra

The New York Philharmonic uses the revolving seating method for section string players who are listed alphabetically in the roster.

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY
Emanuel Ax
Deborah Borda
Zubin Mehta

Programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.
Born in Taiwan and raised in a small town in Arkansas, Taiwanese American conductor Jerry Hou had a late start in music. He began playing trombone in his middle school band, and went on to work professionally in American and European orchestras before injury ended his playing career. After pivoting to conducting, studying with Jorma Panula in Finland, Hou is now recognized for his dynamic presence, insightful interpretations, musical versatility, and commanding technique on the podium. Known for his flexibility in many styles and genres, Hou has conducted repertoire ranging from Classical to contemporary, and has collaborated with composers such as Kevin Puts, Anthony Davis, Steve Reich, Andrew Norman, Melinda Wagner, John Harbison, George Lewis, Bernard Rands, Unsuk Chin, György Kurtág, and Helmut Lachenmann.

Hou began his association with the New York Philharmonic and Music Director Jaap van Zweden in 2021, first conducting the Orchestra in 2022 in the process of “tuning” the newly renovated David Geffen Hall. While continuing his role as a cover conductor, he made his NY Phil debut leading a Young People’s Concert (YPC) in 2023. He returns to conduct one of the YPCs in the 2023–24 season, which marks the series’s centennial.

Jerry Hou recently concluded his successful tenure as resident conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO), the first person to hold that title, and music director of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra. He conducted the ASO in classical, family, and education concerts, and in March 2023 made his subscription debut conducting works by Joan Tower, Jessie Montgomery, and Bartók. Committed to developing the Atlanta music community, Hou created a Second Atlanta School of Composers — featuring native Atlantans Carlos Simon, Joel Thompson, Viet Cuong, Sarah Gibson, TJ Cole, and Elise Arancio — working closely with and performing their music in concerts and recordings. This season Hou returns to the ASO for subscription concerts.

Hou also served as resident conductor of the Grand Teton Music Festival for seven summers. He is on the faculty of Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music, where he is artist teacher of orchestras and ensembles.

Percussionist, composer, and educator Justin Jay Hines has performed with the New York Philharmonic, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Moab Music Festival, Alarm Will Sound, and the Chamber Music Society of Detroit. He has served as a New York Philharmonic Lead Teaching Artist in New York City and Japan since 1997, and has been invited to host several Young People’s Concerts, including last season’s Dance Like a Firebird. He has collaborated with The Juilliard School, St. Louis Symphony, New World Symphony, 92nd Street NY, Lincoln Center’s Education programs, Carnegie Hall, and the Caramoor Center for the Arts as a leader of aesthetic education experiences.
Hines’s classical compositions have been performed by his group, Classical Jam, at venues throughout the United States and Asia. He is a composition mentor for the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program and is the artistic director of Living Arts Collaborative, Inc. He is a recipient of Manhattan School of Music’s Pablo Casals Award for Community Outreach, and joined Manhattan School of Music’s faculty in the fall of 2022.

**Doug Fitch** has directed and designed several staged projects for the New York Philharmonic, including Ligeti’s *Le Grand Macabre*, Janáček’s *The Cunning Little Vixen*, and A *Dancer’s Dream* (which combines Stravinsky’s ballet scores for *The Fairy’s Kiss* and *Petrushka*), as well as HK Gruber’s *Gloria — A Pig Tale*, which the NY Phil co-presented with MetLiveArts and The Juilliard School. He has also directed several NY Phil Young People’s Concerts and Very Young People’s Concerts.

Fitch’s career highlights include designing and directing Puccini’s *Turandot* at Santa Fe Opera; Humperdinck’s *Hansel and Gretel* at Los Angeles Opera; and *Peter and the Wolf in Hollywood* at the Los Angeles Philharmonic, which became an award-winning app narrated by Alice Cooper; and he designed sets and costumes for the PBS *Great Performances* broadcast of *Black Lucy and the Bard* for the Nashville Ballet with music by Rhiannon Giddens, and Suzanne Farrin’s *Dolce la Morte* for MetLiveArts. He created Tanglewood’s production of Carter’s *What Next?*, which was filmed and screened at the Museum of Modern Art. Fitch’s production of *Orphic Moments* (comprising works by Matthew Aucoin and Gluck) was premiered at National Sawdust and reprised at Salzburg’s Landestheater and The Rose Theater at Jazz at Lincoln Center. *Le Grand Macabre* was remounted at Hamburg’s Elbphilharmonie. Fitch devised a puppet production titled *Punkitititi*, featuring the Salzburg Marionette Theater and starring Geoff Sobelle, which was presented by Mozart Woche 2020. He is developing several new music / theater projects with composers Shih-hui Chen, Scott Wheeler, and Doug Cuomo, and will direct and design a production of Matthew Aucoin and Sarah Ruhl’s *Eurydice* at Boston Lyric Opera.

**Materials for the Arts** (MFTA) is New York City’s largest creative reuse center dedicated to supporting arts and cultural organizations. A program of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with support from the Department of Education and Friends of Materials for the Arts, MFTA redistributes more than two million pounds of reusable materials from businesses and individuals across the five boroughs every year. These items are made available — free of charge — to nonprofits with arts programming as well as New York City public schools and city agencies. The City of New York funds infrastructural and operational costs for MFTA, and Friends of Materials for the Arts (the program’s nonprofit partner) supports education and community outreach initiatives.
Jaap van Zweden began his tenure as the 26th Music Director of the New York Philharmonic in September 2018. He has served as Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic since 2012, and becomes Music Director of the Seoul Philharmonic in 2024. He has appeared as guest conductor with the Orchestre de Paris, Amsterdam’s Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Vienna Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and other distinguished ensembles.

In 2023–24, Jaap van Zweden’s New York Philharmonic farewell season celebrates his connection with the Orchestra’s musicians as he leads performances in which six Principal players appear as concerto soloists. He also revisits composers whom he has championed at the Philharmonic, ranging from Steve Reich and Joel Thompson to Mozart and Mahler.

By the conclusion of his Philharmonic tenure he will have led the Orchestra in World, US, and New York Premieres of 31 works. During the 2021–22 season, when David Geffen Hall was closed for renovation, he conducted the Orchestra at other New York City venues and in the residency at the Usedom Music Festival, where the NY Phil was the first American Orchestra to perform abroad since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022–23 van Zweden and the Orchestra inaugurated the transformed David Geffen Hall with HOME, a monthlong housewarming, and examined SPIRIT, featuring Messiaen’s Turangalîla-symphonie and J.S. Bach’s St. Matthew Passion, and EARTH, a response to the climate crisis that included Julia Wolfe’s unEarth and John Luther Adams’s Become Desert.

Jaap van Zweden’s New York Philharmonic recordings include the World Premiere of David Lang’s prisoner of the state (2020) and Wolfe’s Grammy-nominated Fire in my mouth (2019). He conducted the Hong Kong Philharmonic in first-ever performances in Hong Kong of Wagner’s Ring Cycle. His acclaimed performances of Lohengrin, Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg, and Parsifal — the last of which earned him the prestigious Edison Award for Best Opera Recording in 2012 — are available on CD and DVD.

Born in Amsterdam, Jaap van Zweden, at age 19, was appointed the youngest-ever concertmaster of Amsterdam’s Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and began his conducting career almost 20 years later. He is Conductor Emeritus of the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra and Honorary Chief Conductor of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic (where he was Chief Conductor, 2005–13), having previously served as Chief Conductor of the Royal Flanders Orchestra (2008–11) and Music Director of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra (2008–18). Under his leadership, the Hong Kong Philharmonic was named Gramophone’s Orchestra of the Year in 2019. He was named Musical America’s 2012 Conductor of the Year and was the subject of an October 2018 CBS 60 Minutes profile on the occasion of his arrival at the New York Philharmonic. In 1997 Jaap van Zweden and his wife, Aaltje, established the Papageno Foundation to support families of children with autism.
The New York Philharmonic plays a leading cultural role in New York City, the United States, and the world. Each season the Orchestra connects with millions of music lovers through live concerts in New York and beyond, as well as broadcasts, recordings, and education programs.

The 2023–24 season builds on the Orchestra’s transformation reflected in the new David Geffen Hall, unveiled in October 2022. In his farewell season as Music Director, Jaap van Zweden spotlights composers he has championed, from Mahler and Mozart to Steve Reich and Joel Thompson, and leads programs featuring six NY Phil musicians as soloists. The Orchestra delves into overlooked history through the US Premiere of Émigré, composed by Aaron Zigman, with a libretto by Mark Campbell and additional lyrics by Brock Walsh; marks György Ligeti’s centennial; gives World, US, and New York Premieres of 14 works; and celebrates the 100th birthday of the beloved Young People’s Concerts.

The Phil for All: Ticket Access Program builds on the Orchestra’s commitment to serving New York City’s communities that lies behind the long-running Concerts in the Parks, Presented by Didi and Oscar Schaefer, and the Free Memorial Day Concert, Presented by the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation. The Philharmonic engages with today’s cultural conversations through programming and initiatives such as EARTH (2023, an examination of the climate crisis centered on premieres of works by Julia Wolfe and John Luther Adams) and NY Phil Bandwagon (free, outdoor, “pull-up” concerts that brought live music back to New York City during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic).

The Philharmonic has commissioned and/or premiered works by leading composers since its founding in 1842, from Dvořák’s New World Symphony and Gershwin’s Concerto in F to two Pulitzer Prize winners: John Adams’s On the Transmigration of Souls and Tania León’s Stride, the latter commissioned through Project 19, commissions of works by 19 women composers. The Orchestra has released more than 2,000 recordings since 1917, most recently the live recording of Julia Wolfe’s Grammy-nominated Fire in my mouth conducted by Jaap van Zweden. In 2023 the NY Phil announced a partnership with Apple Music Classical, the new standalone music streaming app designed to deliver classical music lovers the optimal listening experience. The Orchestra’s extensive history is available free online through the New York Philharmonic Shelby White & Leon Levy Digital Archives.

A resource for its community and the world, the Orchestra complements annual free concerts across the city with education projects, including the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program and the Very Young People’s Concerts. The Orchestra has appeared in 436 cities in 63 countries, including Pyongyang, DPRK, in 2008, the first visit there by an American orchestra.

Founded in 1842 by local musicians, the New York Philharmonic is one of the oldest orchestras in the world. Notable figures who have conducted the Philharmonic include Tchaikovsky, Richard Strauss, Stravinsky, and Copland. Jaap van Zweden became Music Director in 2018–19, succeeding musical leaders including Bernstein, Toscanini, and Mahler. Gustavo Dudamel will become Music Director Designate in the 2025–26 season, before beginning his tenure as Music and Artistic Director in 2026.
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COMPOSING INCLUSION | APRIL 20
Featuring students from the Juilliard Pre-College Orchestra, this concert will celebrate the creativity of young musicians with newly commissioned works for professional and youth orchestras. Conducted by Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser.

CELEBRATION | MAY 4
Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason joins the Orchestra for a madcap exploration of how composers have used humor to comment on important issues of their day. Conducted by Kwamé Ryan.

Doug Fitch is the director and stage designer for Composing Inclusion and Celebration.

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Don’t miss Steven Spielberg’s cinematic masterpiece E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial in Concert with John Williams’ Academy Award®–winning score performed live to picture by the New York Philharmonic, and experience the magic once more! Constantine Kitsopoulos conducts.

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FEB 29–MAR 1

ÉMIGRÉ

A musical drama of love, hope, and refuge.

Aaron ZIGMAN | Mark CAMPBELL libretto & Brock WALSH additional lyrics

Presented by Linda and Mitch Hart